

Maryland SHIP "Health Action" Newsletter

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Governor Martin O'Malley
Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown
DHMH Secretary Josh Sharfstein

October 25, 2013

Community Needs Assessment Highlights Public Health Concerns Surrounding Charles County Youth



Results of a needs assessment commissioned by the Charles County Local Management Board show high rates of infant mortality, asthma, bullying, and child poverty, while rates of health care availability and college graduation are low. The Charles County Community Needs Assessment of Children, Youth, and Families found that county rates were either increasing, above the state average, or had a racial disparity. According to the assessment, the county's child poverty rate increased from 7.5% in 2007 to 10.7% in 2011, with 854 public school students classified as homeless during the 2012-2013 school year. The percentage of Charles County students suffering from asthma increased from 6.3% during the 2001-2002 school year to 11.8% during the 2008-2009 school year, with 61.6 emergency room visits per 10,000 residents in 2011 due to asthma.

Click [here](#) to view the Charles County Community Needs Assessment of Children, Youth, and Families report.

Click [here](#) to visit the Partnerships for a Healthier Charles County.

View the [SHIP measure](#) and [tools](#) for reducing emergency department visits due to asthma.

Maryland Mental Health Initiative Focuses on a Multidisciplinary Approach



Psychosis, a condition that can result in high risk behaviors including abusing alcohol and drugs, experiencing trauma, and engaging in self-destructive and violent behavior, has been discussed frequently in the aftermath of the recent violence across the nation. The Center for Excellence on Early Intervention for Serious Mental Illness identifies psychosis in the earliest stages and provides support before symptoms become uncontrollable and dangerous.

Through multidisciplinary practices, the center identifies young people between 12 and 22 years old who are at high risk for developing psychosis and provides a continuum of care. Research has shown that early warning signs can be used to identify those at risk for developing psychosis, and patients are more responsive to treatment when diagnosed early. The \$1.2 million state funding will be used to enhance existing programs and support treatment clinics in Baltimore and Catonsville. Additionally, the clinic will include a Clinical High-Risk Program to promote public awareness about warning signs, and to provide testing and offer treatment options.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Center for Excellence on Early Intervention for Serious Mental Illness.

View the [SHIP measure](#) and [tools](#) for reducing emergency department visits related to behavioral health.

Falls Prevention for Seniors: Resources and Promising Practices



Join the DHMH Center for Injury and Sexual Assault Prevention for a discussion on "Falls Prevention for Seniors: Resources and Promising Practices," on Thursday, October 31, 2013, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET. Presenters include Christy Beeghly, MPH, Director of the

Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) at the Ohio Department of Health, discussing older adult falls prevention efforts led by health partners in Ohio. Dina L. Jones, PT, PhD, an Associate Professor in the Department of Orthopaedics at West Virginia University will discuss falls in rural populations, the role of religion in health, previous interventional studies in faith-based settings, and evidence supporting the use of Tai Chi as a fall-prevention intervention. Carol Thornton, MPA, Section Chief for the Violence and Injury Prevention Program at the Pennsylvania Department of Health will discuss falls prevention efforts of the Pennsylvania Injury Community Planning Group.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

View the [SHIP measure](#) and [tools](#) for reducing fall-related deaths.

October is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month



Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month is an annual nationwide observance throughout the month of October to raise awareness and gain support for the reduction of SIDS rates. SIDS is defined as the sudden death of an infant under the age of one that cannot be explained after an investigation of possible causes. After the first month of life, SIDS

is the leading cause of death in infancy, accounting for 35.5% of all post-neonatal deaths in 2009. In Maryland, the infant mortality rate due to SIDS increased between the 2004-2006 period and the 2007-2009 period by 4.9%, from 0.82 to 0.86 deaths per 1,000 live births respectively. Get involved by visiting the [Awareness Month Action Center](#) to educate, advocate, remember, and reach out to support SIDS Awareness Month.

Click [here](#) to visit the First Candle Awareness Month Action Center.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month.

Click [here](#) to view the 2011 Maryland Child Death Report.

Visit the [SHIP measure](#) and [tools](#) for reducing sudden unexpected infant deaths (SUIDS).

News from the Office of Primary Care Access

Thanks for a Great Rural Action Assembly Conference

The State Office of Rural Health, Maryland Rural Health Association, and the Rural Maryland Council, would like to thank everyone who planned, staffed, sponsored, and attended the Rural Action Assembly last week in Aberdeen, MD. Please stay tuned for follow-ups from the conference.

Join The University of Maryland Extension for "Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers"

This one-day course is designed for people who work as health and housing advocates to provide healthy homes information to their communities. The course will take place on Wednesday, November 6, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Anne Arundel-West County Area Library, 1325 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113. There is a \$10 fee to attend the course, which includes lunch. Contact Kate Manchisi, University of Maryland Extension Healthy Homes Program Coordinator at [585-576-5532](tel:585-576-5532) or ormanchisi@umd.edu for additional information

Click [here](#) to register for the course and follow the instructions below.

1. Click "Create Account" in the upper right hand corner if you are new to the registration system.
2. Select "Register for a Course."
3. Click CHW103, "Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers."
4. Select "Session 15."

EARN Maryland Accepting Planning Grant Applications

EARN Maryland is a new, state-funded, competitive workforce development grant program, designed to ensure that Maryland employers have the talent they need to compete and grow in an ever-changing economy. EARN Maryland funding for Planning Grants will be awarded to support regional stakeholder entities across Maryland in a three month planning process. Applications are being accepted until November 12, 2013.

Click [here](#) for more information about EARN Maryland.

Click [here](#) to access the Planning Grant application.